29 October 1975

Olson

REVIEW STAFF

75-3351

The President
The White House
Washington, D. C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

Pursuant to your instructions, efforts were made to negotiate a settlement of the claim of the family of Mr. Frank R. Olson against the Government based on the circumstances of his untimely death. Although the family has agreed to settle its far larger initial claim for [redacted] the Attorney General is not prepared to certify under existing law that such a settlement is appropriate.

The Olson family is prepared to file suit. Such litigation would doubtless be prolonged and in the view of the Department of Justice, it would fail. Under the circumstances this would not appear to be in the best interests of the nation or the Olson family. I believe in good conscience that the circumstances of this case require an equitable response from the Government.

The only vehicle by which to obtain such recompense would be by passage of private legislation. Consequently, I recommend that you forward a request to the Congress for passage of a private bill in the sum of [redacted]

Respectfully,

W. E. Colby
Director

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Approved for Release
Date FEB 2000

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